

**Testimony for Public Hearing
Insurance and Real Estate Committee
In opposition of Proposed HB 5031
January 25, 2011**

Jennifer Henry
82 Gillett Street
Apt. 303
Hartford, CT 06105

Good Afternoon Insurance and Real Estate Committee Members. My name is Jennifer Henry and I am an Advocacy Unlimited advocate and employee. I am here today to ask you to not to increase the security deposit limitations for housing.

It is important we do not increase the security deposit limitations because this will make it more difficult for low income persons looking for housing to be able to afford an apartment. When I moved to my apartment two years ago it was hard for me to come up with the one month security deposit and I can imagine if I had to move again I would not be able to afford the security deposit. Landlords looking to keep certain people out of their buildings will be able to do this by increasing the security deposit and this will be a kind of discrimination against people with lower incomes.

There are hardly any programs that will help pay for the security deposit so we will be responsible for finding the money ourselves. It would be a true hardship and injustice to those of us who want housing and cannot afford it due to paying a higher security deposit in order to get a decent apartment in neighborhoods of our choice. This would be a big setback for housing in Connecticut.

It is necessary not to increase the security deposit limitations in our community. I am only one testimony, but there are many people out there who need us not to change the security deposit limitations. They need assistance to be able to live and survive in their communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Henry